Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1-30. (canceled)

31. (currently amended) A method comprising:

formatting a media key block to include a column index record; and

recording the media key block to a machine accessible medium;

wherein the column index record comprises header information for two or more media key records; ~~and~~

wherein the header information comprises column fields for two or more media key records; and

wherein the column index record comprises two or more column fields.

32. (previously presented) A method according to claim 31, further comprising:

formatting the media key block to include both the column index record and a verify media key record within a single data transfer unit of the machine accessible medium.

33. (previously presented) A method according to claim 32, wherein the single data transfer unit comprises an error control code (ECC) block.

34. (previously presented) A method according to claim 31, wherein the operation of formatting a media key block to include a column index record comprises:

including two or more record length fields in the column index record.

35. (previously presented) A method according to claim 31, wherein the operation of formatting a media key block to include a column index record comprises:

including two or more column fields and two or more record length fields in the column index record.

36. (previously presented) A method according to claim 31, wherein the machine accessible medium comprises a digital versatile disk (DVD)-compliant medium.

37. (previously presented) A method according to claim 31, wherein the operation of formatting the media key block to include a column index record comprises:

arranging the column index record before a verify media key record in the media key block.

38. (previously presented) A method according to claim 31, further comprising:

appending sufficient filler bytes to a first media key record within the media key block to cause an encrypted key data field of a subsequent media key record to be positioned completely within a single data transfer unit of the machine accessible medium.

39. (previously presented) A method according to claim 38, further comprising:

modifying a record length field of the first media key record, to account for the appended filler bytes.

40. (previously presented) A method according to claim 38, wherein the subsequent media key record with the encrypted key data field to be positioned completely within the single data transfer unit comprises a calculate media key record (CMKR).

41. (previously presented) A method according to claim 38, wherein the subsequent media key record with the encrypted key data field to be positioned completely within the single data transfer unit comprises a conditionally calculate media key record (CCMKR).

42. (currently amended) A method, comprising:

reading a column index record from media key block stored on a machine accessible medium, wherein the column index record comprises header information for two or more media key records, ~~and~~ the header information comprises column fields for two or more media key records, and the column index record comprises two or more column fields; and

determining which of the two or more media key records should be accessed, based at least in part on the column fields in the column index record for the two or more media key records.

43. (previously presented) A method according to claim 42, further comprising:

accessing one or more of the media key records, based on the determination of which media key record should be accessed; and

calculating a media key, based at least in part on information obtained from the accessed media key record.

44. (previously presented) A method according to claim 42, further comprising:

accessing one or more of the media key records, based on the determination of which media key record should be accessed, wherein the operation of accessing one or more of the media key records is performed by a device having a predetermined column value; and

wherein the operation of accessing one or more of the media key records comprises accessing media key records that include encrypted key data fields only if those media key records comprise a column value that corresponds to the predetermined column value for the device.

45. (currently amended) An apparatus comprising:

a storage medium; and

instructions encoded in the storage medium, wherein the instructions, when executed by a device, cause the device to perform operations comprising:

reading a column index record from media key block stored on a machine accessible medium, wherein the column index record comprises header information for two or more media key records, ~~and~~ the header information comprises column fields for two or more media key records, and the column index record comprises two or more column fields; and

determining which of the two or more media key records should be accessed, based at least in part on the column fields in the column index record for the two or more media key records.

46. (previously presented) An apparatus according to claim 45, wherein the operations further comprise:

accessing one or more of the media key records, based on the determination of which media key record should be accessed; and

calculating a media key, based at least in part on information obtained from the accessed media key record.

47. (previously presented) An apparatus according to claim 45, wherein the operations further comprise:

accessing one or more of the media key records, based on the determination of which media key record should be accessed;

wherein the device that performs the operation of accessing one or more of the media key records has a predetermined column value; and

wherein the operation of accessing one or more of the media key records comprises accessing media key records that include encrypted key data fields only if those media key records comprise a column value that corresponds to the predetermined column value for the device.

48. (previously presented) An apparatus according to claim 47, wherein the device calculates a media key after accessing one or more media key records with a column value that corresponds to the predetermined column value for the device.

49. (previously presented) An apparatus according to claim 45, wherein the apparatus comprises a data processing system.

50. (currently amended) An apparatus comprising;

    a machine accessible medium;

    a media key block, including multiple media key records, recorded in the machine accessible medium; and

    a column index record within the media key block;

    wherein the column index record comprises header information for two or more of the media key records; ~~and~~

    wherein the header information comprises column fields for two or more of the media key records; and

    <u>wherein the column index record comprises two or more column fields</u>.

51. (previously presented) An apparatus according to claim 50, wherein:

    the media key block comprises the column index record and a verify media key record, with both the column index record and the verify media key record stored within a single data transfer unit of the machine accessible medium.

52. (previously presented) An apparatus according to claim 50, wherein:

    the media key block comprises multiple media key records with encrypted key data fields; and

    each encrypted key data field resides completely within a single data transfer unit of the machine accessible medium.

53. (previously presented) An apparatus according to claim 50, wherein the column index record comprises two or more record length fields.

54. (canceled)

55. (previously presented) An apparatus according to claim 50, wherein the machine accessible medium comprises a digital versatile disk (DVD)-compliant medium.

56. (previously presented) An apparatus according to claim 50, wherein the column index record precedes a verify media key record in the media key block.

57. (previously presented) An apparatus according to claim 50, wherein:

    the machine accessible medium further comprises encrypted content; and

    at least one of the media key records comprises data that may be used to calculate a media key for decrypting the encrypted content.